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THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

Festival a hit for mom



POSTMECUA NETWORK Carol Farrar of Pelham Art Festival that Arena, See the story on Page 5.

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UPFRONT

Donna and the brain tumour she calls 'Evin'

Postmedia Network

She first called it Kevin The acorn-shaped tumour inside her right parietal lobe needed a name so that when its host, Donna Fobert, needed to curse it, she could scream at it directly, "Damn you, Kevin. F--- you.

And when doctors were only able to remove about 10 per cent of the benign tumour in her brain - the darkest spot that was shaped like a tiny cat on her brain MRI she eliminated the 'K' and called it Evin Donna and Evin

will be together, forever. And of all the challenges she's faced head on since doctors found Evin more than two years ago, knowing that he will always be there, in her head, is one of the toughest mind games she's ever had to

"He will always be in here," she says. 'I have to reconcile myself with that. It will always be part of my life," says Donna, 42.

"My goal is to get to a point where a headache is just a headache." Where in her thoughts and fears, Evin isn't the instigator of every twinge of pain.

In a statistical sense, every day 27 Canadians hear the words, "You have a brain tumour* An estimated 55,000 are living with a brain tumour, either cancerous or benign. says Amy Mathias, digital community engagement co-ordinator with the Brain Tumour Foundation of Can-

A brain tumour is the growth of abnormal cells. Because brain tumours are located at the control cen-



Donna Fobert with her children, Branden, 18 and Taylor, 15.

tre for thought, emotion and their quality of life, she says. movement, they can dramatically affect a person's physical and cognitive abilities, and

This month the foundation is launching a campaign of awareness by encouraging people to share their stories, and highlight some of the 120 different types of brain numours.

The most common type of malignant tumour that starts in the brain - glioblastoma

multiforme — has a less than

BRAIN TUMOUR SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Recognizing the most common signs and symptoms associated with brain tumours can help in early diagnosis and treatment. They can

- Visual disturbance such as double or blurred vision
- Weakness or paralysis ■ Personality changes
- Morning nausea and vomiting
- Dizziness or unsteadiness
- Frequent headaches
- Hearing impairment ■ Seizures

Source: Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada

MORE INFORMATION

Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada: www.braintumour.

Brain tumour support group in Niagara; www braintumour.ca/286/ niagara-ontario

one-year survival rate, even with aggressive treatment, she says. And yet, even if a tumour is non-cancerous, it can wreak havoc on a person's life

'You always have to live with this shadow of doubt." savs Mathias.

Continued on Page 6

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'You can replace things, but you can't replace a life'

BILL SAWCHUK Postmedia Network

There isn't anything left of Tal and Lorelei Taylor's work-

shop in Ridgeway. It burned after a car smashed into it and burst into flames in the early morning hours of April 25. The 46-yearold driver died in the crash.

The Taylors used the building to repair and restore antiques for their business, Antiques on the Ridge. It is a passion, Lorelei said. They shop all winter and

unload everything for the store into that building The couple picked through the ashes earlier last week.

Lorelei said it was an emotional afternoon "My husband had every tool in there he had collected over many, many years," she

said. "Everything we use for the business was in that building, and it is all gone. You just want to cry but then you remember that

a person died in the fire. You can replace things, but you can't replace a life. "Our hearts go out to that

family. We don't know them, but I feel so sad for them." The 2003 Pontiac Sun-

fire was southbound on Ridge Road towards Garrison Road at about 1:40 a.m. when the driver lost control and veered into the other lane, Niagara Regional Police sald. The driver tried to steer back onto the road before the car crossed over both lanes. smashed into the workshop

and exploded into flames. (The workshop) was a very old building," Lorelei said. "It was a garage at one time. We had about 60 pieces of old



SARAN FERGUSON/POST VEDIA FILE PHOTO

Niagara Regional Police, Niagara Emergency Medical Services and the Fort Erie Fire Department were called to the corner of Ridge and Garrison roads after a man drove into a garage and a fire ignited at 1:40 a.m. on Monday, April 25.

antique furniture that were very dry. It was a refinishing shop, so there were naturally lots of stains and flammable stuff as well.

"The fire people told us it was one of the hottest fires they have ever seen. The investigator said copper melts at very, very high temperature and the copper had melted

together Det. Const. Jordan Garus of the NRP's accident reconstruction unit said the crash is still under investigation.

Investigators are looking at whether alcohol was a factor or if the driver had a medical emergency. They don't believe

speed was a factor. We are waiting for toxicology, and an autopsy report from the coroner's office." Garus said. "We are looking at all aspects of the crash. Because of the time it occurred, you have to look at the possibility of the driver

falling asleep and things of that nature." Police have said they are not

releasing the driver's name. Fort Frie fire Chief Larry Conlen said the Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal turned the investigation back over

It was an old-style block construction," he said of the building, "Someone had built a plywood wall over where the garage doors used to be. That's what the driver hit. He drove through the wood. "When we arrived the building and the car were both fully

involved. It isn't a large building, and we were able to contain the fire in about 15 or 20 minutes. There was a hydrant right on the property." to police and the local fire Taylor said insurance will help to replace what the cou-

ple have lost, and they have enough antiques in the store to re-open. "We told the claims peole we want to demolish the building," she said.

"We are going to grass it over, I can't imagine having the workshop on a place

bsawchuk@postmedia.com

where somebody died. "We would rather use one of the other buildings and expand it. We are going to move forward, but we feel

uncomfortable with all of "The fact is somebody died here. We didn't know him. but they just had the funeral the other day. I don't want to showcase business in any way out of respect for the man that



COMMENT

Published by PelhamNEWS, Postmedia Corp. 228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5 Tel: 905-732-2414 ext.246 Fax: 905-732-3660 e-mail: welland.tribune@sunmedia.ca John Tobon, secur assessment percent Peter Conradi, www.cava.comon

Indoor pool and amendment questions

DAVE AUGUSTYN Pelham Mayor

ince Council recently approved moving orward with the construction of the Pelham Community Centre, some people have continued to ask questions. The following are two of the most often asked questions:

Why no indoor pool? You will recall that since 1990 the community has consistently voiced a desire - through seven consultant studies and staff reports - for a new twin pad arena, new indoor pool facilities and other community facilities. But, when Council reviewed those reports in late 2012, we confirmed that "no significant or meaningful financial work was

completed." So, the Town surveyed you and your neighbours about your needs, tested a business case, and developed an operating pro format to satisfy those needs.

In 2013, the Town hired LeisurePlan. experts in community recreation planning. to conduct a statistically-significant resident survey about our community's needs and preferences. LeisurePlan used this survey to test the business case for various community

In January 2014, LeisurePlan reported that the number of potential members to use an indoor pool was only 50 per cent of that required to financially support it. Further, they estimated that to make an indoor pool "financially viable" the town would have to provide an operating subsidy "in the order of \$1,000,000 Because of the high capital and operating

costs and lack of sustaining demand, council accepted LeisurePlan's recommendation that the town not provide an indoor pool facility. Why disallow an amendment for a single

pad arena? After receiving presentations and correspondence from residents and community representatives during our special council meeting on April 25, council deliberated a motion to move ahead with the construction of the Community Centre as designed.

When a councillor tried to move an amendment to that motion to construct the centre with only one arena. I had to rule the amendment "out of order." Why? Because

Council already approved designing the facility with two arenas You see, on July 6, 2015 council received a business case report from Leisureplan

showing that the sustaining demand exists to operate two arenas. As a result of that report, council approved a motion that we design the Community Centre with two arenas so both would operate when the building opens

To change gears and enact what the April 25 proposed "amendment" tried to accomplish, Council would have had to 1. defeat the motion we were dealing with, 2, rescind the July 6, 2015 motion, and 3. direct that the Centre be re-designed with one arena and so that a second to be added later. I am pleased that we are constructing a

Community Centre based on a solid business case. And, I appreciate the ongoing interest from the community! You may contact Mayor Dave at mayordave@nelham.ca or read nast columns at www.pelhammavordave.blosspot.com.

Fitness is for your brain, too

Hardly a week passes these days without reading a news story about

The tale hasn't changed in years: We eat too much bad food, spend too many hours sitting, and don't get nearly enough exercise. This leads to all kinds of illnesses, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes and other In short, our collective sloth is killing us,

Turns out, exercise doesn't just keep your heart healthy, but also makes your brain healthier and can assist in treating, recovering from and managing brain illness like depression.

(Last week was Mental Health Week, so you must have known this was coming.) Last Tuesday, I spoke to Jan Robertson, the regional clinical supervisor for addictions and mental health at Niagara Health System, who

told me regular exercise can be an indispensable tool when dealing with brain health. "I prefer to think of it as mental wellness," he said "When we talk about mental illness, we're talking about a brain thing. But we prefer

to treat the entire patient, because the connection between the brain and body is so Robertson said NHS recreational therapists often incorporate physical exercise in

patient treatment. "It doesn't have to be a lot," he said, "Even 30 minutes a day for four days a week can vield really positive results. So why is someone like Robertson so hot

to trot on exercise as a tool to deal with some brain illnesses, as well as a means to maintain one's mental health? In one word: semionin

Serotonin is neurotransmitter linked to the regulation of mood. In effect, it's a chemical your body produces that, among its other functions, makes you feel happy. People who suffer from depression are

often found to have low levels of serotonin. That's why antidepressant drugs are designed to manage serotonin levels. Exercise can have a similar effect, because it increases the production of serotonin in the body.

"You know that feeling runners get, sometimes called a runner's high, when they feel really good after running?" Robertson said.
"That's serotonin at work."

Interestingly, most of our serotonin isn't stored in the brain, but is produced in the human gut, home to so many neurons specialized nerve cells commonly associated with the brain and spinal cord — that it is nicknamed "the second brain."

(Don't let the name fool you. Your stomach doesn't actually think, so it cannot be blamed for over eating. You still make deci-

sions with your head. Exercise "activates" these cells, Roberston said, leading to the production of serotonin and, Shazam!, your mood improves,

This isn't just a hypothesis. Robertson said the NHS has a therapy group that is essentially a running club. The mood of the participants is tracked before and after their runs. Not surprisingly, post-run moods are better than before exercising.

"The science on this has been evolving for a long time. This isn't new," Robertson said. However, it wasn't as possible to incorporate exercise into therapy in the past, he said, at least not in Niagara.

The new St. Catharines hospital, he said, was designed with a walking path around



While exercise is important, it doesn't replace the need for a proper diagnosis and treatment if you are suffering from depression or related illness.

it, allowing clinicians to get their patients moving outside - something that wasn't really feasible at the old St. Catharines General Hospital on Queenston Street. (It's not really possible at the soon-tobe-replaced hospitals in Niagara Falls and

Welland, either.) To be clear, while exercise is important, it doesn't replace the need for a proper diag-

nosis and treatment if you are suffering from depression or related illness. But it can be an incredibly useful tool in

your arsenal to manage a condition. None of this should come as a surprise. Over time, we have built for ourselves an

environment utterly unlike the one our species arose in. We didn't evolve to sit at desks in front of computers all day, spend our nights staring at the artificial glow of smartphones and televisions or eat food barely

worthy of the term. We evolved as active creatures. Our bodies, and our brains, are not meant to be

sedentary. So it's little wonder we grow sick Given the way our bodies work and the

constantly climbing costs of health care, we ought to take Robertson's advice and get

Your brain will thank you for it.

Festival makes Mother's Day gifts an art form

BERND FRANKE

Postmedia Network For the past 27 years, mom's been the word at the Pelham Art

While a festival that has marked the traditional start of the art show season since it began 30 years ago, it wasn't too long before the event began making a mark on the Mother's Day calendar, too. Art festival president Heidi

TeBrake said it isn't unusual for people to attend the festival looking for gifts for their mothers as well as art for their own homes. *People come here to buy

presents for mom," she said. TeBrake recalled the joy of seeing an 11-year-old boy who had just purchased an oil painting for his mother. "He got his first real piece of

art, he was excited," she said of the four-by-four painting that cost about \$40.

This year's show, which began last Friday and wrapped up Sunday, was held at Pelham Arena. It drew 75 artists from throughout Ontario, from as far east as Ottawa to as far west as Windsor.

For the past few years demand for display space at the juried show has exceeded supply.

"We always have a waiting list," said TeBrake, noting that six artists were on the list this year. To maintain the show's quality artists submit photographs of their work to a panel of four

judges, all of them judges. Festival organizers also strive for a "mixed balance" of the mediums that will be featured in

the show

"We don't want to have too much of one type of art and not enough of another," she said.

In addition to painters, the festival showcased the creations of jewelry makers, potters and woodcrafters. First-time exhibitor Sueda Akkor welcomed the opportunity

to discuss her acrylics with festivalgoers. We do it for ourselves, but

it's nice to talk about the paintings with people," said the semiretired ophthalmologist who lives in St. Catharines and occasionally

does lectures for McMaster Uni-'I do like telling people the story behind the painting Akkor, who began drawing 15 years ago, was invited to display

her paintings after attending the show for the first time last year as a festivalgoer.

"This is a great show," she said. "I'm really impressed with the variety of the art, and the quality of the art

Wood turner Don Svob from Wainfleet said he doesn't always know what a creation will like

look until it's finished "Most of the time I don't know. I let the wood dictate where to go." he said, noting the grain structure plays a big role in the rotary carv-

"I like the challenge of it." Syob, a retired General Motors millwright who took up wood

turning eight years ago, can't remember tage of 'artistic opportunities."

*Like I said, I go where the wood takes to become firewood.

"I'm an artist. I don't make mistakes."

he said with a laugh. "I just take advan-

BFranke@oostmedia.com





Wood turner Don Svob from Wainfleet displays some of his creations at the Pelham Art Festival that wrapped up Sunday at Pelham Arena.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Rob Welch has been selected as the 2016 Niagara's Business Achievement - Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Rob is a Senior Partner and a proud member of the Lancaster Brooks & Welch team for over 35 years. It is the Niagara Chamber of Commerce's continued effort to acknowledge business excellence in our communities. The Ufetime Achievement Award is designed to celebrate people who have excelled in business with a long-term proven track record of business success and community involvement. Rob is a fitting illustration of the depth of business strength in Niagara, and commitment to his firm, its employees, and the community-at-large. He is truly worthy of the Lifetime Achievement Award.



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Donna

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LOCALNEWS

Donna and the brain tumour she calls 'Evin'

Donna's story begins just over two years ago, in the driveway of her St. Catharines home. She had just shovelled snow, felt a tingling sensation in her lower left leg and couldn't wiggle her toes. She stood, perplexed and wondering: "Why are you not moving? I'm sending you a mes-

sage to move. It lasted only a moment, then was gone. But it was odd enough for her to mention to her doctor, who sent her to a neurologist. By then, it had happened twice more, the worst in a change room at a clothing store that left

her with a leg tremor, unable to move for the better part of four minutes. The diagnosis came suddenly, after Evin's dark shadow was found on an MRI. Overwhelmed and terrified.

Donna managed to ask: "Am I going to die?"

And then, "What do I tell my kids?" Donna has two children; Branden, 18, and Taylor, 15. And it was from their strength, and the positive influence of husband Phil Fobert who last summer donated a part of his

Clerk, at 905-892-2607 ext, 338

June 20, 2014, she lied awake in an operating room at Hamilton General, with a halo attached to her skull, as doc-

tors tried to remove Evin. A strip of her hair, from ear to ear, was carefully shaved, and a square of skull bone cut out and removed. Donna was brought in and out of consciousness, as doctors stimulated the parts of her brain around the tumour. If a body part moved - a slight hand twitch or full-body jolt - it was brain. If nothing happened, it was Evin.

However, because brain tissue had grown over the tumour most of it could not be removed. And there Evin staved

Donna's head was closed up with stitches. Impressive, neat and tidy train track stitches, she happily noted, Four days later, hair combed strategically over the sutures. she made it to her daughter's

Grade 8 graduation. And that is where Donna thought her story would end. 'I thought it was going to be, pluck it out and two months later I'd be recovered and back to work," she says.

"I don't know if people realize how much it takes out of you for something that's not cancer.

Donna faced weeks of chemotherapy and radiation to reduce the chances of Evin getting bigger. And then, in the midst of treatments, an infection effectively disintegrated the bone square that had been cut out in the original surgery and it had to be removed permanently in a second surgery, and replaced with an artificial bone. But the stitched

a pen tip grew larger at the

ing out in patches from radiation treatments. In her darkest moments. she hung onto her husband's words: "This is going to be a skin didn't heal properly and two small holes the size of

long, hard road and it's going to be OK There was even more chemo, and a final and fourth

same time her hair was fall.

surgery that cut out the strip of infected flesh, and rotated a circular piece of her scalp the size of a bagel, so the edge that was at the bottom was turned 180 degrees to fit along the top. A band of skin was taken from her leg and used to fill in the gap created where the infected strip was cut out. And that, was that.

Finally, Donna was able to

put energy into recovery. He hair has started to regrow, albeit not as thick as it once was. She has grown closer to her mother, who stayed by her side and her Grade 1 teacher and neighbour, who drives her to appointments in Hamilton. Friends who she'd lost touch with over the years, stepped up to help. A cousin came to her house every morning for coffee. And ber family gave her a reason to recover

And these days, several weeks removed from the intensity of uncertainty, she recognizes the experience as a life lesson in resilience. Especially, for her children,

"I hope they learned it's a hard journey," she says. "But sometimes the hardest journevs have the best results."

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SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

FORM 6, Municipal Act, 2001

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the landish described below and will be received until 3.00 p.m. local time on June 15, 2016, at the Pelham Municipal Building, 20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill Ontario. The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Pelham Municipal Building, 20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill,

Roll No. 27 32 020 021 00500 0000; 1690 Rice Rd, Fonthill; PIN 64061-0255(LT); Part Township Lot 161 Thorold, designated Part 1 Plan 59R9256; Pelham; File No.14-04 Minimum Tender Amount: \$32,879.46

Roll No. 27 32 020 021 00600 0000; 195 Highway 20 E, Fonthill; PIN 64061-0458(LT); Part Township Lot 161 Thorold, as in RO246955, except Part 1 on SN313468; subject to an easement in gross over Part 2 on SN313468 as in SN313468; Town of Pelham; File No. 14-05 Minimum Tender Amount; \$51,235.80

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or cheque certified by a bank or trust corporation payable to the

municipality and representing at least 20 per cent of the tender amount. Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Bules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes. HST if applicable and the relevant land transfer tax. The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser. For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender visit www.OntarioTexSales.ce, or if no internet access available, contact Elaine Ronald, Town of Pelham Taxation

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CULTURE

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13, 2016.

Pelham Farmers' Market Bucks Winner May 5, 2016

Donna Braun



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Police board weighs Uber options

BILL SAWCHUK Postmedia Network

The Niagara Regional Police board is still wrestling with how best to move forward with a made-in-Niagara regulation for taxis and the ride-sharing

*There are some issues we still have to solve." Bob Gale, chairman of the police board, said after a lengthy closed-doors session, "If we don't get the answers we need, we may need some more time.

The police officers in charge of licensing and board lawyer Woody McKaig will report back to the board on May 26. The board has delayed making a decision a number of times

"I would rather they take their time and do their research," said Hanif Patel, president and CEO of Coventry Connections, which operates taxis in Niagara. "I'm pleased with the decision." Niagara's police board is responsible

for bylaws that regulate business operators and drivers of various vehicles-forhire, such as cabs, tow trucks, limousines, sightseeing and shuttle vehicles, and horse-drawn buggles.

This licensing process includes extensive criminal and driving history background checks, vehicle registration and safety checks, and for proof of applicable insurance provisions including commercial insurance and successful completion of a taxi driver training Gale said he realizes there will be

winners and losers when Niagara undates its regulations.

"That's the way it goes," he said. "We are having a healthy debate on the board. Our No. 1 issue is safety. That includes record checks and vehicle fitness. Sustaining the business is No. 2 by a long way off."

Gale said Niagara has been looking toward Toronto and Ottawa to see how those cities are handling Uber.

Earlier last week, Toronto passed regulations that allows Uber to operate legally in the city for the first time. The city approved a new PTC, or private transportation company class, to accommodate Uber by a vote of 27-15 after hours of debate. The base fare for Uber in Toronto will increase by 75 cents to \$3.25. All vehicles must be

inspected twice a year Taxis in Toronto will be able to use surge-pricing like Uber by adding extra fees during busy times, but only when passengers book fares through an online app.

Patel's company operates Central Taxi in St. Catharines, Fort Erie, Grimsby, Niagara Falls, Thorold, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Lincoln and West Lincoln. He said he isn't a fan of surge

pricing. "The principal of the taxi business has always been that you charge the same rate irrespective of time or day,"

he said. 'I know I'm biased and come from one angle, but maybe we should be looking at giving the public some consumer protection, and making sure nobody is being gouged.

"We don't surge charge and have invested huge amounts money in the licensing system that was developed in Niagara. We bought into it legally. We have invested \$12 million in Niagara. We raised the bar, and now we are seeing the

rug pulled out from under us. We have never been against competition, but our view is if some player like Uber is going to be allowed, they should be meeting the mandate the police board sets in Niagara, and not just elbowing their way in.

gara in November, but is, in fact.

operating illegally in Niagara. Niagara Regional Police revealed on April 8 that it had charged 20 drivers from Uber with offences under a section of the Highway Traffic Act that prohibits picking up passengers for

saveonenergy"

FOR HOME

"Rather than taking enforcement action, we believe the right path forward is to develop common sense regulations and we look forward to continuing our support our driver partners fully." work with officials in Niagara to develop permanent regulatory

solutions for ridesharing," said Susie Heath, a spokesperson for Uber Canada.

"We don't believe that the bur, den of enforcement should fall on individual drivers and Uber will

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Residents warned of doorto-door salesmen

Postmedia Network

William Moline was convinced they were from the

When the salesmen arrived at his Regent Street home last Friday, he says they told him work was being done on the city's waterlines outside his

Earlier, he saw a truck with the city of Welland logo on it in the area.

He says when the salesmen knocked on his door claiming to be from the city he felt he had no reason to doubt them.

According to Moline, they arrived in a plain white car, and told him that the city would be working on a nearby fire hydrant "and they were going to be digging up the road."

He says they told him they

would install a water softener tank in his basement, and when the water was shut off for the work that was being done, he'd still have drinking water. He let them in.

But last Monday, Moline heard a report from the city warning about salespeople who may have been telling residents they represented the city and residents were required to install water filtra-

tion equipment.
It made him suspicious.
"That's when I figured I'd
better check into this," he

Moline pulled out the paperwork he was left with after the equipment was installed and carefully read through it.

It was from a company

called Ontario Standard Home Services, and included an \$850 bill. Moline contacted Welland

Moline contacted Welland MPP Cindy Forster's constituency assistant Mike Haines for help. Haines contacted the com-

pany's owner on Moline's behalf, adding the purchase was made within the "10-day cooling off period" for sales transactions under Ontario law.

In his letter, Haines said Moline only allowed the salesperson into his home because

"they said they were with the City of Welland." The company ultimately

agreed to remove the water filtration equipment at no cost to Moline.

"But the thing that gets me is, how can they do something like that?" he asked. "It's a good thing I never gave them my Visa card."

He hopes by sharing his story, he can warn others "before anybody else gets burt"

The city issued a warning to residents earlier last week about door-to-door salespeople, saying they do not represent the City of Welland, and there is no requirement for residents to install a filter in their homes. It also says city staff representatives will always clearly identify themselves and show residents proper identification.

"If proper identification is not shown, do not let the individual into your home, or sign a contract for any reason," the city warns.

Contacted last Tuesday, Monique Lawrence, operations manager from Ontain Standard Home Services, said the company has not received complaints from Welland residents specifically alleging the salespeople were misrepresenting themselves.

But in response to the "one or two complaints we did have," she said the company advised the homeowners that "they are not required to open their door, they don't have to let them

She said installing the devices "is by choice."

"It's highly recommended however, it isn't mandatory," she said.

She said salespeople are supposed to knock on doors and present themselves as being from Ontario Standard Home Services, 'and if the homeowners are interested, they do sign them up for an application where they would purchase a water filtration system.'

She said the company will "definitely" be looking into the complaints the city has received.

Continued on next page

Residents warned of door-to-door salesmen

From previous page The city's media release

says water samples are collected by city staff on a weekly basis throughout the water distribution system, and tested in accordance with provincial regulations. The quality of the water continues to meet and exceed provincial standards.

Water quality test results are available on the city's website: welland.ca.

If salespeople try to gain access to your home for any reason and or do not clearly identifying themselves or the purpose of the visit, the city advises residents to call Niagara Regional Police immediately at 905-735-7811.

More information about water quality testing is available by calling the city at 905-735-1700 ext. 3000.



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Niagara IceDogs players Christopher Paquette, Stephen Dhillon, Hayden Davis and Ben Jones walk through the halls of Governor Simcoe Secondary School, where they are studying while playing hockey.



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IceDogs making the grade in school

DON FRASER

Postmedia Network It's remarkable for any high school student to rack

up a 95.1 per cent average. Imagine it being Stephen Dhillon, a goalie for the Niagara IceDogs, one of the keys to a season that's seen the team rocket to the Ontario Hockey League finals. Dhillon is one of six active

Dogs players now studying in St. Catharines secondary schools.

As team policy, high-school-aged Dogs players not from the area continue as students at Governor Simcoe Secondary School. Last year, Dhillon prevailed as the top high school academic Ontario Hockey League player.

This time around, he stands at a very-respectable No. 2, with his sights set on a health sciences program at University of Toronto.

Well, you just try to get the work done when you can," said Dhillon, 17, with a wry smile in an interview with three other IceDogs studying at Simcoe. "It could be on the bus.

you might get a little spare time between games

"You just use your free time as efficiently as you can - and the teachers are all very accommodating with your needs and helping you

catch up." The Buffalo resident and others at Simcoe were interviewed at the school a day before Game 1 last Thursday with the London Knights in

London. Dhillon is among 10 players who started at Simcoe at the beginning of the school year, Trades, cuts and shakeups whittled it down to four. who also include defenceman Hayden Davis and centremen Ben Jones and Chris

Of two other players on the current active IceDogs squad, Kyle Langdon has continued studies at Denis Morris High School and another, William Lochead,

at Ridley College. "It's such a change for me from last year," said Davis, 16. from Hamilton, "I'm having to be at the rink a lot more It's a lot busier and more tiring ... but all the guys are

also helping me out, too, so it's nothing too hard." Continued on Page 16



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IceDogs making the grade in school

From Page 13

Are they treated any differently by Simcoe students? "All the kids are pretty nice." Davis said, adding they likely don't socialize as much with other students there because days are packed full as hockey

players "For the most part, the guys just stick together ... we are kind of on the outside."

As for their team's current run of success, the four Simcoe players say they're pumped, living the moment, and it hasn't affected their studies much. They are wowed by how the community has rallied behind them.

"I think this success makes things easier, because if we didn't go this far we'd all have to go back to our home schools," Davis said. "And that transition would have been tougher."

The other two teens seem also to be faring well at Sim-

Jones, 17, is rocking his grades with about a 90 per

cent average. For him, the biggest challenge is "just being able to juggle everything.

"It can be stressful ... with school, going to the rink and working out until 12 hours after you'd left home, some days," said Jones, who hails from Waterloo.

"You lean on the support of everyone. Time management is key. You try to get to bed as early as you can. Paquette, 18, said it was hard

to balance it all at the start. Then the season goes on and you get used to it," said the Kingston resident, "This is my second year (doing this) and I knew what I was coming into,

and what it would be like." Tim Tope, the academic adviser at Simcoe, calls these students "fantastic." *Of the nine years I have

been doing this, these have been the best we've had," Tope

"We have had kids in the past that had a hard time balancing it all.

Tope, whom is also a guidance counsellor at the high school, said a meeting takes place with prospective Dogs slated to attend local schools during rookie camp.

"We give them as much information as we can ... paperwork, we try to get them pre-registered," he said. Generally speaking, the sub-

ects taken at school are for university-bound students. Currently, the Simcoe students finish at about 1:10 p.m. on school days, and that

Dr. Kimberly Dobson

IN THE VILLAGE

amounts to roughly threequarters of a typical school day, five days a week. Some subject work can also be han-

dled online. This season, the Dogs students have missed remarkably

few school days due to games, nerhans five. After classes, the boys hit the ice by 2 p.m. and carry on with practice and workouts until about 5 p.m. They then typically drag their weary bodies

back to billeted families and plow into their homework. Other IceDogs players have graduated high school and may take post-secondary, college or other online courses on their own.

"These really are model students, all around good guys with great character," said Simcoe vice-principal Nor-bert Kuebeck. "They are great ambassadors for the pro-

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Redshaw leads skate down memory lane

Postmedia Network

When Wayne Redshaw talks about the heyday of hockey in Port Colhorne. much of it is from first-hand knowledge

Long before he joined the newspaper in 1962, the former Tribune sports editor knew all about the fierce rivalry between Port Colhorne and Welland from a fan's perspective that dates hack to the late 1940s. Redshaw can remember boarding the trolley at Stop 17 on Quaker Road and getting off

at Elm Street in Port Col-*Back then, the fare was something like 15 cents. hut it was worth it. You got to see good hockey," the 72-year-old Buffalo Sahres Hall of Famer said.

Battles for hragging rights in intermediate hockey weren't limited to the Port Sailors, the Crowland Bisons and that team's successor, the Welland Combines. "Dunnville was a big draw, too, You could always count on a mudcat get-

ting thrown on the ice," he recalled with a chuckle. Thrown in celebration or in consternation? 'Sometimes, it was hoth."

Those storied rivalries were among the headlines ripped from local sports history Monday when Redshaw led a skate down memory lane at Portal Retirement Village, Port Colhorne Historical Society invited him to give a talk Monday evening and the theme of his 30-minute presentation was Port Colborne's Golden Years in Hockey.

An era that began in the late '40s, just after Teeder Kennedy left Port Colborne on his way to a hall of fame career with the Toronto Maple Leafs, lasted well into the 1970s. Over that time Port Colhorne won seven



ships and twice travelled to compete in the eastern Canadian finals.

"They also hosted the finals from time to time." While the players, many of whom stayed close to home, weren't profession-

als, it was nonetheless good hockey "You have to remember

for a long time it was only a six-team NHL, and the American Hockey League wasn't paying crap," Red-shaw said. "Don't kid vourself, it was very good

Until Hockey Night in

Canada came to the small screen, at the heginning not picking up the action until the end of the first period, local hockey was the only

"In those days that was hockey. For some reason, Hockey Night in Canada started at 8:30 and only showed the end of the first period." Redshaw, a Welland

game in town.

Sports Wall of Fame inductee and a life member of the Professional Hockey Writers' Association, doesn't know whether he he feeling more nostalgic or a "just old" when he makes his Port Colhorne Historical Society presentation.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK

game, fittingly

enough, took

place at Vale

Health and

Centre when

Tribune sports

discussed the

talk he was

Historical

Society

to give to the

Port Colhorse

Monday night.

editor Wayne

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"Probably a little of both." The historical society meeting took place in the Portal Village auditorium. BFranke@oostmedia.com

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A highway through hell

DON FRASER

Postmedia Network A former Welland resident is breatbing easier after her husband's harrowing drive to safety from a work camp north of Fort

McMurray "It was pretty scary," said Allison Cowell, recounting Jeremy Wallace's 480-km, last Tuesday night nine-hour journey south to

"He was rattled and couldn't get to sleep until about 3 a.m. this

morning As the fire threatened the surrounding communities, Wallace a machinist who had been working at Suncor, together with hundreds of other journeymen, was told to prepare to evacuate to

make room for people fleeing surrounding town The camp is about 30 km north

of the fire-stricken areas. "The camp he was at just filled up with people," said Cowell, who has lived in the area, most ning out of gas recently, since 2007.

"He was talking about how families came in with kids, you could see it on their faces they were just drained," she said. "There were babies born at the camps up there

- at least two births." The plan, said Cowell, a journeyman steamfitter, was originally for the workers to be flown out of a nearby airstrip, but the strip had to be used for other evacuation

Wallace ended up spending that night instead at the Noralta

camp near his worksite. He was finally able to leave at 10 a.m. last Wednesday morning along Highway 63. He joined thousands of others heading south on the crowded highway, the only real way out of the area. Anyone traveling that distance is aware gas stations are few and far between, Compounding the issue was that several gas stations had

exploded - and others were run-

Within hours his truck was

"running on fumes" and he wasn't alone "The issue that occurred for

many people up there is ... on that stretch of Highway 63, there one gas station, (about) 210 km down," Cowell said.

If a long-distance commuter has little gas left after having made the previous trip up from Edmonton: "You're not going to make it back." A photo he took through the

windshield of his truck shows what turned out to be a 15km line of vehicles who had run out of gas or nearly so. Some people aban doned their vehicles and climbed in with others fleeing the fire. Wallace took a short detour to a Chevron station where "they

made sure people could make to the pumps," Cowell said, with some getting their gas to their stalled vehicles by jerrycan. Eventually, after a drive through

Edmonton, Wallace made it home exhausted. He made it to their Tofield home at about 7 p.m. last Wednesday -after a quick stop in Edmonton for a cold

beer. It's a drive that normally takes 41/2 The couple are both hired out of unions

halls and work multiple-day shifts at the As for couple's work future there: "Right now, they're still full of people who

don't have anywhere to go," she said. She said their thoughts are with people in the fire-rayaged areas. lost everything this week."

Cowell notes how northern Albertans - and others - have opened their hearts and homes to the thousands afflicted. "I have many friends there," she said. "Some

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Woman held for sex trade

Postmedia Network Niagara Regional Police have charged a Brampton man with human trafficking after a lengthy investigation. Police said the trafficking took place in Niagara Falls

over a six-month period in

late 2015 and early 2016. The

victim is a 25-year-old woman

from the GTA.

In February, the uniform officers went to a hotel for a domestic dispute," Staff Sgt. Shawn Clarkson said "No one was talking at the time. and the officer didn't have enough information to lay any

charges. "Later on, the female party contacted us. She gave us a statement that she was being controlled and working in the sex trade, and we went from

Clarkson said the hotel was "particularly" helpful in the investigation.

"The hotel staff played a role in it." he said. "We really need the hotels to be our eves and ears on the inside. In this case, that happened. The victim is safe, and we have someone locked up, which is where

"Several times a year we conduct what I would call pro-active investigations in Niagara Falls where we will

try identify victims of human trafficking," be said. "I'll leave it at that. Just what it involves I

won't get into. *There are other times when the investigation is reactive -

as it was in this case. The victims are often reluctant to tes-Peel Regional Police helped in the investigation.

Joshua Mark Thomas, 25. was arrested and returned to Police charged Thomas with human trafficking, two counts

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ing, two counts of receiving a material benefit and withholding documents. *Withholding documents is its own section in the criminal

of assault, forcible confinehas to do with human traffickment, uttering threats, choking or exercising control over someone. A person charged with this offence will have withheld travel documents or ID, making the person less able to move around or purcode," Clarkson said, "It often chase things."



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NOTICE OF A PROPOSED CHANGE TO A RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT

Project Name: Niagara Region Wind Farm Renewable Energy Approval: 4353-9HMP2R

TESO Reference Number: F-0015R0-WIN-130-601 Project Location: The Niagara Region Wind Farm (the "Project") is located within Haldimand County and Niagara Region (including

the Townships of Wainfleet and West Lincoln and the Town of Lincoln). The electrical interconnection components are located within the Town of Lincoln and the Township of West Lincoln, in Niagara Region, and in Haldimand County in southern Ontario. Dated At: Haldimand County and Niagara Region on this 4th day of May, 2016.

Niagara Region Wind Corporation ("NRWC") was issued a Renewable Energy Approval (REA) on November 6, 2014 in respect of the Niagara Region Wind Farm project (the "project"). Information with respect to the decision on this project can be viewed on the Environmental Registry by searching EBR #012-0613. An amendment to the existing approval for an administrative change to the Project was issued by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) on November 23, 2015; to acknowledge the change in ownership of the Project from 'Niagara Soble Road East

Region Wind Corporation' to 'FWRN LP', as FWRN I P has nurrhased the Project (FRR #012-5532)

FWRN LP is proposing to make changes to the project and the project itself is subject to the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act of Ontario (Act) Part V.O.1 and Ontario Regulation 359/09 (Regulation). In accordance with Section 16.0.1 of the Regulation this notice is being distributed to make the public aware of proposed changes to the project.

Project Description and Proposed Chang Pursuant to the Act and Regulation, the facility, in respect of which the REA was issued, is considered

to be a Class 4 Wind Facility. An application has been made to the MOECC to change the project and after the terms and conditions of the existing REA. The proposed change consists of a project design change to the REA Application and includes adding a new modified alternate transmission line route around the Town of Smithville to avoid areas proposed for future urban expansion

nts for Public Inspection

FWRN LP has developed a Modification Document which summarizes the proposed change. A written copy of the Modification Document is currently available for public inspection on the project website (http://www.nrwf.ca/projectdocuments/). Copies of the final REA documents also remain available on the project website.

Project Contacts and Information To learn more about the project, or to communicate questions or comments, please contact:

Project Email Address: info@nnwf.ca Project Website: www.nrwf.ca Project Phone Number: B10-363-6401 or 1-B44-363-6491 (toll free)

> Shiloh Berriman, Project Coordinator EWDNID 4672 Bartlett Road South Beamsville, ON LOR 181

J.A. (Al) Leggett, BA, MCIP, RPP, Project Manager Stantec Consulting Ltd. 300 - 675 Cochrane Drive West Tower Markham, ON L3R 0BB

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formation will be collected and used in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. This information will be used associately the Protection of Privacy Act. This information will be used associated by the property applicable disvipuncional approach improved the protect and public protect privacy and may be included of the public control and public protect privacy personal information and all commences will become part of the public record and publicly related as part of project documentation.





Conditional sentence for \$59,000 debit fraud

ALISON LANGLEY Postmedia Network

A Niagara Falls man who scammed a convenience store out of almost \$60,000 worth of lottery tickets and chocolate bars was planning to pay the money back after he won the lot-

tery, court heard last Wednesday.
Court heard Lawrence Wilkes had
discovered that if he removed his
debit card at a certain moment before
a transaction was completed, it would
appear as though the money had been

transferred even though it had not.
Between Aug. 22, 2012 and June
25, 2014, Wilkes made 589 fraudulent
transactions at Falls Convenience on
Victoria Avenue. In each case, he purchased lottery tickers and chocolate

bars, totaling \$59,300.
Assistant Crown attorney Gabe
Assistant Crown attorney Gabe
Assistant Court of Justice in St.
Catharines the defendant was a regular at the store, visiting almost daily
and was known by the staff.

The judge agreed to a joint submission of a 12-month conditional sentence on a charge of fraud over \$5,000 after being told Wilkes could make a full restitution in the form of a per-

sonal cheque.

"Very, very rarely do we see this kind of money being repaid," the judge said. "Very often, they are ordered to repay but that extends months or years and often the payments aren't

made:

Defence counsel Geoff Hadfield said
his client retired early from GM after
33 years so he could use his retirement fund account to reimburse the

storeowner.

If the defendant had won the lottery, Hadfield said, he planned on repaying the storeowner all of the

repaying the storeowner all of the money he had stolen. That aspect of the case didn't sit well with the judge.

"You might as well take your money and burn it," he said. "You have a better chance of being struck by lightning. It's a tax on the stupid, quite frankly."

Wilkes will be under house arrest for the first six months of his sentence.



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Taking the hightech plunge



Certified diver Thomas Oswald from Vienna, Austria, handles European distribution for Shark Marine Technologies Inc. of St. Catharines. He took part in a training day in

Niagara diving equipment firm's worldwide distributors get immersion course

Postmedia Network

Diving equipment's version of kicking the tires took place at Welland Scuba

A "training day" hosted by Shark Marine Technologies Inc. fully immersed participants in what's new in the St. Catharines manufacturing company's

Six sales distributors from as far as China spent last Tuesday under water becoming familiar with a hand-held navigator that uses high-tech sonar to let "divers" locate objects in murky waters. The certified divers the company relies

on to promote its products overseas also test drove a sled that lets divers increase the distance they can travel under water while preserving their air supply.

"It gives you long-distance capabilities. You would use about the half the air than swimming on your own," said Jim Garrington, chief executive officer of a company that employs 24 people locally.

Known in the highly specialized industry as the Mako, the sled is a diver delivery system that has military, law enforcement, search and rescue as well as scientific applications. Costing about \$150,000, including a software suite that can be updated, the Mako can even operate autonomously.

Distributors also received a hands-on demonstration of a remotely-operated vehicle (ROV) that, among tasks, can look for shipwrecks and inspect pipelines as deep as 300 metres. In other words, anywhere too deep

and too dangerous for a diver to go," Gar-He pointed out an ROV was recently used at an offshore hydro storage facility in Toronto to snap cables and turn valves.

See TRAINING DAY Page 23

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TRAINING DAY from page 22

"It can take a lot more than take pictures underwater," Shark Marine's CEO, a certified diver, said with a chuckle. Purpose of what the company hopes

will become an annual "training day" was to familiarize reps with the capabilities of products manufactured in St. Catharines by the underwater technology specialist.

This is so the reps can understand it and will be able to sell it to the end user," Garrington said. Shark Marine products are available

worldwide though the sale of military applications in such countries as China is restricted. Those markets, Garrington said, would receive the scientific technologies.

Welland Scuba Park, located off the Lincoln Street docks on the west bank of the recreational canal, was chosen for last Tuesday's demonstration because of calm water. In the past testing has been

done în Lake Ontario This allows us to operate from the shore," Garrington said.

Visibility was under the water was about three metres, but that didn't bother Thomas Oswald, Shark Marine's Austrian-based European distributor, He said the sonar-equipped navigator easily guided him around obstacles and found objects under water.

"Three metres? That is plenty for us," said Oswald, who lives near Vienna and has represented the St. Catharines company in Europe for the past five years. His customers include the military

and law enforcement agencies. He said the equipment can be used to find mines or locate bodies in police recovery oper-

"It all depends on the application. With this so much is possible," Oswald

Story continues on Page 25



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'This is a long-term process, it takes time'

Continued from Page 23

Though based out of Missis Pawan Kumar travels to India even three months promoting Shark Marine products. He ranked the navy as the biggest potential client in the Indian market

Kumar has been a distributor for 11/2 years, but he isn't upset that he has vet to bid on a tender. "This is a long-term process, It takes time, this is very specialized equipment."

Kumar knows of two other manufacturers — one in Israel. the other in the United Kingdom - but Garrington said the industry is so small that competing companies buy parts from each

"The ones who are competitors we turn into customers," he said.



Shark Marine chief executive officer Jim Garrington shows a \$150,000 diving sled at the company's training day for distributors.



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Divers get used to the water in the Welland Recreational Canal during a training day St. Catharines-based Shark Marine Technologies Inc. hosted for its worldwide distributors.

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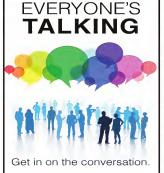
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